

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 4, 28 and 50 without prejudice of disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 17-22, 25, 27 30, 31, 36, 41-45, 49, 51 and 52 as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, a clean copy of all pending claims 1-3, 5-27, 29-49, 51 and 52 is being reproduced below, with the amended claims being so labeled, and a marked-up version of the amended claims being submitted in an Appendix attached at the end of this Amendment:

1. (Amended) A machine for producing a fibrous material web comprising:
- at least one shoe press including at least one drying cylinder and a shoe press unit
 - which are arranged to form a pressing nip elongated in a web travel direction;
 - at least one suctioned apparatus arranged before said at least one shoe press relative to the web travel direction;
 - a water-permeable continuous carrying belt arranged to guide the fibrous material web from a forming roll over said at least one suctioned apparatus and through said elongated pressing nip; and
 - a hood subjected to an overpressure being assigned to said at least one suctioned

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apparatus and being arranged to support an underpressure effect of said at least one suctioned apparatus,

wherein the at least one suctioned apparatus comprises a suction roll and wherein the hood at least partially surrounds the suction roll.

A | 2. The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the fibrous material web comprises a tissue or hygiene paper web.

3. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein, as said carrying belt guides the fibrous material web over said at least one suctioned apparatus, said carrying belt is arranged between the fibrous material web and said at least one suctioned apparatus.

A² 5. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said hood contains an overpressure fluid comprising at least one of overheated steam, dry air and moist hot air.

6. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a suction element positioned between said at least one suctioned apparatus and said at least one shoe press.

7. The machine in accordance with claim 6, wherein said suction element comprises a suction box.

8. The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said at least one shoe press unit comprises a plurality of pressing zones arranged crosswise to the web travel direction.

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9. The machine in accordance with claim 8, wherein said plurality of pressing zones are controllable independently of one another.

10. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said at least one drying cylinder comprises a tissue or Yankee drying cylinder, and said machine further comprises a crepe doctor arranged to remove the fibrous material web from said tissue or Yankee drying cylinder after drying.

11. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein the machine includes a forming section in which said carrying belt is arranged to accept a fibrous stock suspension from a headbox.

12. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a

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continuous outer wire,

wherein said carrying belt is also guided over said forming roll as an inner belt over the forming roll in relation to said continuous outer wire.

13. The machine in accordance with claim 12, wherein said inner belt comprises a felt belt.

A² 14. The machine in accordance with claim 12, wherein said inner belt comprises a wire belt.

15. The machine in accordance with claim 12, wherein said inner belt comprises a dewatering belt.

16. The machine in accordance with claim 12, wherein said inner belt comprises an imprinting member.

17. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said carrying belt comprises a felt belt.

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18. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said carrying belt comprises a wire belt.

19. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said carrying belt comprises a dewatering belt.

A² 20. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said carrying belt comprises an imprinting member.

21. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a continuous felt belt which is arranged between said carrying belt and said shoe press unit and which is guided through said elongated pressing nip along with the fibrous material web and said carrying belt.

22. (Amended) The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said shoe press unit comprises a water-impermeable continuous, circulating press belt.

23. The machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said shoe press unit comprises a shoe press roll with a pressing jacket.

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24. The machine in accordance with claim 23, wherein said pressing jacket comprises a water-impermeable pressing jacket.

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25. (Amended) A process for producing a fibrous material web in an apparatus including a water-permeable continuous carrying belt, at least one shoe press having an elongated pressing nip formed between a drying cylinder and a shoe press unit, at least one suctioned apparatus, which includes a hood, arranged before the at least one shoe press unit relative to a web travel direction, and said carrying belt being guided from a forming roll and then over the at least one suctioned apparatus, wherein the at least one suctioned apparatus comprises a suction roll and wherein the hood at least partially surrounds the suction roll, said process comprising:

guiding the fibrous material web and the carrying belt through the elongated pressing nip; and

supporting an underpressure effect of the at least one suctioned apparatus by creating an overpressure in the hood.

26. The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the fibrous material web comprises a tissue or hygiene paper web.

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27. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein, as the carrying belt guides the fibrous material web over the at least one suctioned apparatus, the carrying belt is positioned between the at least one suctioned apparatus and the fibrous material web.

29. The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the overpressure in the hood is created by an overpressure fluid comprising at least one of overheated steam and dry and/or moist hot air.

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30. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the apparatus further includes a suction element positioned between the at least one suctioned apparatus and the at least one shoe press, and the process further comprises suctioning the carrying belt and fibrous material web guided over the suction element.

31. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 30, wherein said suction element comprises a suction box.

32. The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the shoe press unit comprises a plurality of pressing zones arranged at least crosswise to the web travel direction, and the process further comprises independently controlling the plurality of pressing zones.

33. The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the drying cylinder comprises a tissue or Yankee drying cylinder, and the process further comprises scraping the fibrous material web from the tissue or Yankee drying cylinder after drying.

34. The process in accordance with claim 33, wherein the apparatus further includes a crepe doctor and the process comprises scraping the fibrous material web from the tissue or Yankee drying cylinder after drying with the crepe doctor.

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35. The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the apparatus includes a forming section and the carrying belt is guided through the forming section, and the process further comprises accepting a fibrous material suspension from a headbox on the carrying belt.

36. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the apparatus further includes a continuous outer wire, and the carrying belt is guided over the forming roll as an inner wire between the continuous outer wire and the forming roll, and the process further includes supplying a fibrous material suspension between the inner wire and the outer wire.

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37. The process in accordance with claim 36, wherein said inner belt comprises a felt belt.

38. The process in accordance with claim 36, wherein said inner belt comprises a wire belt.

A³ 39. The process in accordance with claim 36, wherein said inner belt comprises a dewatering belt.

40. The process in accordance with claim 36, wherein said inner belt comprises an imprinting member.

41. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein said carrying belt comprises a felt belt.

42. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein said carrying belt comprises a wire belt.

43. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein said carrying belt

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comprises a dewatering belt.

44. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein said carrying belt comprises an imprinting member.

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45. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the apparatus includes a continuous felt belt arranged between the carrying belt and the shoe press unit in the elongated pressing nip, and the process further includes guiding the fibrous material web through the elongated pressing nip along with the carrying belt and the continuous felt belt.

46. The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the shoe press unit comprises a water-impermeable pressing belt.

47. The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the shoe press unit comprises a pressing jacket.

48. The process in accordance with claim 25, wherein the pressing jacket comprises a water-impermeable pressing jacket.

49. (Amended) An apparatus for producing a fibrous material web comprising:
at least one shoe press including at least one drying cylinder and a shoe press unit
which are arranged to form a pressing nip elongated in a web travel direction;

at least one suctioned apparatus arranged before said at least one shoe press relative
to the web travel direction;

A³ a water-permeable continuous carrying belt arranged to guide the fibrous material
web from a forming roll over said at least one suctioned apparatus and through said pressing
nip; and

an overpressure device associated with said at least one suctioned apparatus arranged
to support an underpressure effect of said at least one suctioned apparatus,

wherein the at least one suctioned apparatus comprises a suction roll and wherein the
overpressure device comprises a hood subjected to an overpressure, the hood being arranged
to surround at least a portion of the suction roll.

51. (Amended) The apparatus in accordance with claim 49, wherein said overpressure
device comprises an overpressure fluid comprising at least one of overheated steam, dry air
and moist hot air.

A⁴ 52. (Amended) A process for producing a fibrous material web in an apparatus that

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includes at least one shoe press having at least one drying cylinder and a shoe press unit which are arranged to form a pressing nip elongated in a web travel direction, at least one suctioned apparatus arranged before the at least one shoe press relative to the web travel direction, and an overpressure device associated with the at least one suctioned apparatus, wherein the at least one suctioned apparatus comprises a suction roll and wherein the overpressure device comprises a hood subjected to an overpressure, the hood being arranged to surround at least a portion of the suction roll, the process comprising:

guiding the fibrous material web from a forming roll and over the at least one suctioned apparatus; and

subjecting the fibrous material web to an overpressure while is it guided over the at least one suctioned apparatus.

REMARKS

Summary of the Amendment

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 4, 28 and 50 will have been canceled. Additionally, claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 17-22, 25, 27 30, 31, 36, 41-45, 49, 51 and 52 will have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-3, 5-27, 29-49, 51 and 52 will be pending, with claims 1, 25, 49 and 52 being in independent form.